



House of Commons
Education Committee

Appointment of the Chief Regulator of Ofqual

Second Report of Session 2021–22

*Report, together with formal minutes relating
to the report*

*Ordered by the House of Commons
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The Education Committee

The Education Committee is appointed by the House of Commons to examine the expenditure, administration, and policy of the Department for Education and its associated public bodies.

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The Committee is one of the departmental select committees, the powers of which are set out in House of Commons Standing Orders, principally in SO No 152. These are available on the Internet via www.parliament.uk.

Publications

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Committee staff

The current staff of the Committee are Clare Mutzenich (Phd Student), Vanessa Donhowe (Committee Specialist), Dr Mike Everett (Clerk), Oliver Florence (Senior Media Officer), Rosemary Hill (Committee Specialist), Robert McQuade (Committee Operations Manager), Emily MacLeod (Hansard Scholar), Rebecca Owen-Evans (Committee Specialist), Anwen Rees (Second Clerk), Owen Sheppard (Media Officer), Steiner Teixido-Oroza (Committee Operations Officer).

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You can follow the Committee on Twitter using [@CommonsEd](https://twitter.com/CommonsEd).

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1 Background to the hearing

Ofqual

1. The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual) is a non-ministerial department, established in April 2010 under Part 7 of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009. It regulates qualifications, examinations and assessments in England.
2. Ofqual's priorities for the period 2021–22 are set out in its Corporate Plan:¹
 - Regulating GCSE, AS and A levels in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic;
 - Regulating vocational and technical qualifications in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic;
 - Supporting quality in regulated qualifications and assessments;
 - Managing its people, resources and systems; and
 - Measuring its progress and impact.

Pre-appointment hearing request

3. The Chief Regulator of Ofqual is one of four positions subject to a pre-appointment hearing by the Education Select Committee.² This is to help ensure that the candidate is suitable for the post.
4. On 18 June 2021, the Secretary of State for Education, Rt Hon. Gavin Williamson CBE MP, wrote to us to say that Dr Jo Saxton, currently Policy Advisor for the School System to the Secretary of State for Education and to the Minister for the School System, had been chosen as the Government's preferred candidate to take up the post of the Chief Regulator of Ofqual. The Committee was invited to hold a pre-appointment hearing with the candidate.³ The Secretary of State's letter, the candidate's curriculum vitae and a memorandum provided by the Government, which sets out the requirements of the post, along with details of the recruitment process, are all appended to this Report.
5. We accordingly invited Dr Saxton to attend a pre-appointment hearing on Tuesday 6 July.
6. The last year has been a particularly difficult one for Ofqual, which has faced numerous challenges surrounding the decision not to go ahead with exams. We would like to put on record our thanks to the outgoing Chief Regulator, Simon Lebus, for the work he has done since his appointment as interim Chief Regulator on 4 January 2021, and to his predecessor Dame Glenys Stacey.

1 [Ofqual Corporate Plan 2021 to 2022, May 2021](#)

2 [Appendix 1](#)

3 [Appendix 2](#)

2 The recruitment process

7. The recruitment campaign was launched on 23 February 2021 and closed on 16 March. 5 applications were received in response. Three candidates were invited to interview as they were deemed to have met the bar.⁴
8. Interviews were held on 27 and 29 April. The recruitment panel was chaired by Julia Kinniburgh (Departmental Official, Department for Education) and comprised of Ian Bauckham (Ofqual representative), Cindy Butts (Senior Independent Panel Member), Baroness Ruby McGregor-Smith (Department for Education Non-Executive Director), and Richard Pennycook, Department for Education Non-Executive Director).
9. Following the interview stage, the Secretary of State met the two candidates who were deemed appointable before making his decision on the preferred candidate.

3 The Position of Chief Regulator

Role and person specification

10. The Chief Regulator of Ofqual is an appointment made by the Secretary of State for a term of five years. The Chief Regulator is the Chief Executive. The job description for Chief Regulator states that it is seeking a candidate “with proven track record of operating successfully in a senior leadership role, including the delivery of major projects”.⁵ Candidates should have “the resilience and confidence to make difficult decisions under pressure”. The description asks for candidates who are aware of the Government’s reform programme and the particular challenges created by the covid-19 pandemic.

11. The job description states that candidates will need to provide “strong and inspirational leadership” during a “challenging period”. Candidates should be able to command the respect and inspire the confidence of ministers, Parliament, awarding organisations and leaders in the education sector and of the Ofqual board and staff, as well as students, parents and the general public. Internally the Chief Regulator is responsible for overall management and staffing of Ofqual.

12. According to the role profile, the main responsibilities of a Chief Regulator are to:

- Lead Ofqual in acting as the independent regulator of qualifications and assessments in England.
- Represent Ofqual to the public, ministers, Parliament and the media.
- Lead public debate in relation to the maintenance of both standards and confidence in examinations, qualifications and assessments.
- Ensure that qualification reform programmes are delivered successfully, working closely with government and awarding organisations.
- Be responsible for the overall leadership, management, organisation and staffing of Ofqual, building capacity and capability to respond to the particular challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic and restoring confidence in the organisation.
- Be responsible for financial and other practices and procedures including conduct and discipline.
- Promote the values underpinning Ofqual, through personal leadership and example.
- Coordinate and implement policies and actions determined by the Ofqual Board.⁶

13. The recruitment pack drawn up by the Department for Education set out six essential criteria that the successful candidate would need to be able to demonstrate. They were:

- Proven track record of operating successfully in a senior leadership role, including the delivery of major projects—demonstrating the ability to play a key

5 Appendix 3

6 Appendix 3.

role in the leadership of the English education system and to provide strong and inspirational leadership to Ofqual and to the qualifications and wider education sector through a challenging period.

- A commitment to ensuring that qualifications and assessments are rigorous, valid and reliable.
- The ability to communicate effectively with, and command the respect and inspire the confidence of, ministers, parliament, awarding organisations and leaders in the education sector and of the Ofqual board and staff, as well as of students, parents and the general public; including the ability to represent Ofqual effectively in the media..
- The ability to skilfully navigate the political landscape, and a good understanding of the government's educational programme, the role of the regulator in implementing the reforms and the particular challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Demonstrated ability to understand and process statistical information and academic research at speed.
- The resilience and confidence to make difficult decisions under pressure, in conjunction with the Ofqual Board.

14. Candidates were also expected to be able to demonstrate the following desirable criteria:

- Experience in the secondary or further secondary sector, and in particular an understanding of the role that qualifications play in an effective education and skills system and how they are developed and awarded; and/or
- Experience of working in a regulatory role.⁷

The Government's preferred candidate: Dr Jo Saxton

15. The Secretary of State's preferred candidate is Dr Jo Saxton. She is currently Policy Advisor for the School System to the Secretary of State for Education and to the Minister for the School System. Dr Saxton was previously a member of the Ofqual board, and has held various leadership roles in the education sector. She declared no political activity or conflict of interest as part of the recruitment process.⁸ Dr Saxton's CV has been included as an appendix.

16. In the Secretary of State's view, Dr Saxton:

... emerged as the strongest candidate suitable for the role. She has a deep understanding of the education system, and indeed of Ofqual and the vital role it plays as regulator [...] I hope you will be reassured to see Jo's breadth and depth of experience in education.⁹

7 Appendix 3

8 Appendix 3

9 Appendix 2

17. In line with the guidance drawn up by the Liaison Committee on the conduct of pre-appointment hearings, our questioning sought to test the professional competence and personal independence of the candidate. The Liaison Committee also observes that a candidate will need to be able to withstand parliamentary and public scrutiny should they take up the post, and that questioning may therefore be robust.¹⁰ We questioned Dr Saxton on the following areas:

- the role and powers of the Chief Regulator of Ofqual;
- the candidate's priorities, if appointed;
- how her previous experiences have prepared her for this role;
- the challenges facing the education sector today.

18. A transcript of the oral evidence is published on the Committee's website.

The Committee's views on the suitability of the candidate

19. **The Committee held a pre-appointment hearing with the Government's preferred candidate for Chief Regulator of Ofqual, on 6 July 2021. We agree that Dr Jo Saxton is appointable for the post. We seek reassurance that qualification standards will be maintained and that employers, institutions and learners will continue to have confidence in them. We will hold regular accountability hearings to examine this issue. A strong leadership team must work with the Chief Regulator to take Ofqual forward.**

10 Liaison Committee, *Pre-appointment Hearings*, Third Report of Session 2017–19, HC 2307, 19 June 2019

Appendix 1: Posts which are subject to pre-appointment hearings by the Education Committee

HM Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills

Children's Commissioner for England

Chief Regulator, Ofqual

Chair of the Office for Students

Appendix 2: Correspondence from the Secretary of State

18 June 2021

Dear Rob,

Letter from the Secretary of State for Education to announce his preferred candidate for the post of Chief Regulator of the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual)

As you will be aware, the Department for Education launched a competition to appoint an Ofqual Chief Regulator ahead of Simon Lebus's departure from Ofqual in September. I am now pleased to put forward my preferred candidate, Dr Jo Saxton, for the Committee's consideration.

Following a sift and interview process, the Advisory Assessment Panel agreed their scores and found two candidates met the minimum standard for the role. Having carefully considered the panel's views and the strengths of the candidates, I chose Dr Saxton as my preferred candidate.

In my view, Jo emerged as the strongest candidate for the role. She has a deep understanding of the education system, and indeed of Ofqual and the vital role it plays as a regulator, having previously held a role on its board (April 2018–March 2020). Jo was previously CEO of Turner Schools academy trust, and prior to that was CEO of Future Academies trust. More recently Jo has been working for the Department for Education as a policy adviser - initially providing expertise on the expansion and improvement of the academies programme, and lately on issues around qualifications. Jo is also a former trustee of The Brilliant Club and New Schools Network, and prior to that she was an academic and worked as a curriculum consultant.

Bearing in mind the points expressed by previous committees, I hope you will be reassured to see Jo's breadth and depth of experience in education. I am particularly interested in Jo's vision for Ofqual to regulate on behalf of students.

All candidates were informed prior to appointment that the position is subject to scrutiny by the Education Select Committee. I understand that the Committee has set 6 July 2021 as the date for the pre-appointment scrutiny hearing. In accordance with the guidance on pre-appointment hearings, I attach a copy of information about the role, a description of the recruitment process, and information on the preferred candidate. I am also attaching Jo's CV.

I look forward to receiving the Committee's conclusions and advice on the appointment in due course.

Rt Hon Gavin Williamson CBE MP

Secretary of State for Education

Appendix 3: Recruitment information provided by the Department

The preferred candidate—Dr Jo Saxton

Jo is currently serving as Policy Advisor to the Secretary of State and to the Minister for the School System, appointed by the Secretary of State to advise on the expansion and improvement of the Academies programme. Qualifications were subsequently added to Jo's remit, due to the demands of the pandemic. Prior to appointment as Policy Advisor, she was CEO of Turner Schools academy trust. Jo is a former member of Ofqual board (April 2018–March 2020), and former trustee of The Brilliant Club and New Schools Network. She was the first CEO of Future Academies trust, and prior to that she was an academic and worked as a curriculum consultant.

Jo has indicated no political activities or conflict of interest as part of this recruitment process.

A copy of Jo's CV has been attached as part of the covering email accompanying this document, for your reference.

Role description and person specification

Role remit

The Chief Regulator / Chief Executive Officer of Ofqual is responsible for delivering on Ofqual's statutory duties, including maintaining standards and promoting confidence in qualifications and assessments, taking account of the extraordinary circumstances created by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The main responsibilities of the role are to:

- Lead Ofqual in acting as the independent regulator of qualifications and assessments in England.
- Represent Ofqual to the public, ministers, Parliament and the media.
- Lead public debate in relation to the maintenance of both standards and confidence in examinations, qualifications and assessments.
- Ensure that qualification reform programmes are delivered successfully, working closely with government and awarding organisations.
- Be responsible for the overall leadership, management, organisation and staffing of Ofqual, building capacity and capability to respond to the particular challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic and restoring confidence in the organisation.
- Be responsible for financial and other practices and procedures including conduct and discipline.

- Promote the values underpinning Ofqual, through personal leadership and example.
- Coordinate and implement policies and actions determined by the Ofqual Board.

Legislative Framework

The legislative basis for Ofqual is in Part 7 of the Apprenticeships, Children, Skills and Learning Act 2009 (“ASCLA”) (specifically section 127). Ofqual’s functions are set out in Part 7 of, and its constitution is set out in Schedule 9 to, ASCLA.

ASCLA does not assign specific functions to the Chief Regulator—all relevant functions are exercisable by Ofqual as a body corporate.

Paragraph 1 of Schedule 9 to ASCLA provides that Ofqual is to consist of a member appointed by Her Majesty by Order in Council as the chief executive of Ofqual, a member appointed by the Secretary of State to chair Ofqual (“the chair”), and between 7 and 12 members appointed by the Secretary of State (the “ordinary members”).

Paragraph 2 further provides that the person appointed as the chief executive of Ofqual is to be known as the Chief Regulator of Qualifications and Examinations (“the Chief Regulator”).

Schedule 9 also provides that Ofqual may appoint members of staff and establish committees and joint committees (which may in turn establish sub-committees), and may delegate its functions to a member, a member of staff, a committee or a joint committee (which last two can delegate to a sub-committee).

Paragraph 9 of Schedule 9 provides that Ofqual may regulate its own proceedings and the proceedings of any Ofqual committee, and that a joint committee may regulate its own procedure.

Person Specification

As outlined in the job advertisement, the successful candidate was required to demonstrate the following six essential criteria:

- Proven track record of operating successfully in a senior leadership role, including the delivery of major projects—demonstrating the ability to play a key role in the leadership of the English education system and to provide strong and inspirational leadership to Ofqual and to the qualifications and wider education sector through a challenging period.
- A commitment to ensuring that qualifications and assessments are rigorous, valid and reliable.
- The ability to communicate effectively with, and command the respect and inspire the confidence of, ministers, parliament, awarding organisations and leaders in the education sector and of the Ofqual board and staff, as well as of students, parents and the general public; including the ability to represent Ofqual effectively in the media.

- The ability to skilfully navigate the political landscape, and a good understanding of the government's educational reform programme, the role of the regulator in implementing the reforms and the particular challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Demonstrated ability to understand and process statistical information and academic research at speed.
- The resilience and confidence to make difficult decisions under pressure, in conjunction with the Ofqual Board.

The person specification also sets out the following desirable criteria:

- Experience in the secondary or further education sector, and in particular an understanding of the role that qualifications play in an effective education and skills system and how they are developed and awarded; and/or
- Experience of working in a regulatory role.

Term Dates (length of tenure): 17 September 2021–16 September 2026 (5 years).

Remuneration The post was advertised with remuneration of up to £135,000.

Time Commitment Full time position.

Ofqual Chief Regulator Recruitment Process

Overview

Campaign launch date	23/02/2021
Campaign closing date	16/03/2021
Number of applicants	5
Number of candidates invited to interview	3
Number of candidates found appointable	2

Advertisement

The competition was launched on 23 February 2021 for a period of 3 weeks, closing on 16 March. The job advertisement can be found here:

<https://publicappointments.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/appointment/chief-regulator-the-office-of-qualifications-and-examinations-regulation-ofqual/>

The post was also advertised online in The Times and The Telegraph and through social media. A copy of the advertisement is available in Annex A.

Advisory Assessment Panel

As outlined in the Governance Code for Public Appointments,¹ the purpose of the Advisory Assessment Panel is to assist the Secretary of State in his decision-making for the role of the next Chief Regulator.

The panel comprised of:

Julia Kinniburgh	Panel Chair and Departmental Official
Ian Bauckham	Panel Member—Representative of Ofqual
Cindy Butts	Senior Independent Panel Member
Baroness Ruby McGregor-Smith	Panel Member—DfE Non-Executive Director
Richard Pennycook	Panel Member—DfE Non-Executive Director

Sifting of Applications

A total of five applications were received when the competition closed. Due to the number of applications, diversity data cannot be shared.

The panel met to sift the applications on 23 March. One member of the panel was unable to attend the meeting and retrospectively confirmed agreement with the rest of the panel. The panel recommended three candidates be invited to interview as they were deemed to have met the required standard.

The Secretary of State confirmed that he wished the panel to interview all the candidates put forward by the panel.

Interview stage

The three interviews took place on 27 and 29 April with the full panel. As part of this, candidates were asked to prepare a short presentation entitled ‘*What do you think are the key challenges facing the qualifications system over the next five years and how will you lead Ofqual in addressing them?*’.

Candidates were also given an unseen task 20 minutes before the interview. They were aware they would be expected to complete the task but did not know the question. The question was entitled: *You have just been appointed as Chief Regulator and you’ve gone to the office for an initial meeting. A group of senior staff members from the General and Vocational Qualifications teams ask to speak to you (for 5 minutes) because they are worried about their future with Ofqual. Imagine we are those senior staff members—what will you say?*

The remainder of the interview related to questions based on candidates’ experience and strengths, assessed against each of the essential criteria.

During the post-interview discussion and based on the evidence provided by candidates (CV, cover letter and interview performance), the panel agreed that two candidates were capable of undertaking the role.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/governance-code-for-public-appointments>

The outcomes of the interview stage were presented to the Secretary of State, who agreed to meet with the candidates deemed appointable before making his decision on the preferred candidate. Following the meetings, the Secretary of State deemed Jo Saxton as his preferred candidate for the role of Chief Regulator. This has been approved by the Prime Minister, and as such, the Education Select Committee have been invited to hold a pre-appointment hearing with her and report on their conclusions.

Diversity data¹

Due to the number of applications, diversity data of candidates cannot be shared.

Notes on diversity data

1. Departments must consider their obligations under data protection legislation when sharing this data with select committees. Candidates must be made aware at the outset of the campaign that their data will be shared with the select committee in this way. The data should not be shared in a way which means that individuals are identifiable.
2. Departments should follow ONS guidance on statistical disclosure control to meet this requirement. Where there are fewer than 5 candidates in any given category, diversity data must not be shared as this is potentially identifiable. For example if you have six women and four men on a shortlist—you should not give any gender information.

Annex A—Job Advertisement

Vacancy Description

As Chief Regulator / Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Ofqual, you will be responsible for delivering on Ofqual's statutory duties – including to maintain standards and promote confidence in qualifications and assessments – taking account of the extraordinary circumstances created by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Your main responsibilities will be to:

- Lead Ofqual in acting as the independent regulator of qualifications and assessments in England
- Represent Ofqual to the public, ministers, Parliament and media
- Lead public debate in relation to the maintenance of both standards and confidence in examinations, qualifications and assessments
- Ensure that qualification reform programmes are delivered successfully, working closely with government and awarding organisations
- Be responsible for the overall leadership, management, organisation and staffing of Ofqual, building capacity and capability to respond to the particular challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic and restoring confidence in the organisation
- Be responsible for financial and other practices and procedures including conduct and discipline
- Promote the values underpinning Ofqual, through personal leadership and example
- Coordinate and implement policies and actions determined by the Board.

Person Specification

We recommend that applicants familiarise themselves with the role of the Chief Regulator set out in Part 7 of the [Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#) and Part 4 of the [Education Act 2011](#) and with the work of Ofqual.

The successful candidate must be able to demonstrate the following **essential** criteria:

- proven track record of operating successfully in a senior leadership role, including the delivery of major projects – demonstrating the ability to play a key role in the leadership of the English education system and to provide strong and inspirational leadership to Ofqual and to the qualifications and wider education sector through a challenging period
- a commitment to ensuring that qualifications and assessments are rigorous, valid and reliable
- the ability to communicate effectively with, and command the respect and inspire the confidence of, ministers, parliament, awarding organisations and leaders in the education sector and of the Ofqual board and staff, as well as of students, parents and the general public; including the ability to represent Ofqual effectively in the media
- the ability to skilfully navigate the political landscape, and a good understanding of the government's educational reform programme, the role of the regulator in implementing the reforms and the particular challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic
- demonstrated ability to understand and process statistical information and academic research at speed
- the resilience and confidence to make difficult decisions under pressure, in conjunction with the Ofqual Board.

The following are **desirable** criteria:

- experience in the secondary or further education sector, and in particular an understanding of the role that qualifications play in an effective education and skills system and how they are developed and awarded; and/or
- experience of working in a regulatory role.

Appendix 4: Candidate's CV

CURRICULUM VITAE

Jo Saxton, MA (Cantab), Ph.D. (NYU)

JUNE 2021

Current Role

Policy Advisor for the School System to the Secretary of State for Education and to the Minister for the School System [March 2020–present]

Areas of focus:

- Expansion and improvement of the Academies programme
- Regulation of schools
- General Qualifications
- Supported: establishment of Oak National Academy, BBC online school, NLE reform and SEND Review

Previous Experience

Ordinary Board Member, Ofqual [2018–March 2020]

Director of the independent regulator of Qualifications for England.

Served on the Standards Advisory Group and the AI marking sub-committee.

Trustee, The Brilliant Club [2017–2019]

Served as the safeguarding trustee and on the appointments committee.

Trustee, New Schools Network [2016–2018]

Founding Chief Executive, Turner Schools [2016–2020]

Turner Schools is a family of five schools spanning nursery to sixth form in Folkestone, Kent.

- Brought together three primary and two secondary schools as a tightly-knit group, committed to success without selection.
- Led rapid improvement in all the schools, including securing the first ever Ofsted Good judgement at Morehall Primary.
- Took on and turned around two Lilac Sky primary schools.
- Opened the over-subscribed Turner Free School in record time.
- Provided free breakfasts for all children.

Chief Executive, Future Academies [2011–2016]

Future Academies is a multi-academy trust spanning nursery to sixth form. Grew the Trust from one school to five (two secondaries and three primaries), all in Westminster.

- Outstanding judgements returned for those schools inspected by Ofsted.
- Pimlico Academy in the top 20% of schools nationally for progress.
- Founded a SCITT, judged to be Outstanding at its first inspection.
- Co-founded the Trust's pioneering Curriculum Centre which brought thought-leadership in curriculum, and published *Seven Myths about Education* by Daisy Christodoulou.

External Advisor to Department for Education and Ofsted [dates span 2008–2017]

- Teaching Apprenticeship Standard (DfE): 2017
- Early Years (DfE & Ofsted), 2014
- Teaching standards and national curriculum reform (DfE): 2010+
- Independent Review of the Primary Curriculum (DCSF), 2008

Various academic roles

Universities taught and/or examined at include: Cambridge, Kent, Syracuse & Richmond (The American International University).

Curriculum consultant

Research assistant, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

Researcher, Saxton Bampfylde International, London

Intern, NSPCC

Qualifications and awards

Honorary Ph.D., School of Education, University of Buckingham, 2020 (Convocation postponed due to Covid)

Certificate in Regulation: Theory, Strategy, and Practice, The London School of Economics and Political Science 2021

Ph.D., Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, 2003

MA, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, 1996

BA (Hons), History of Art, Cambridge University, 2:1, 1993 (Honorary MA awarded in 1997)

Select publications/reports:

‘The Initial Teacher Education We Need, Why We Don’t Have It, and How to Get It’ in *The Importance of Teachers* (Jonathan Simons ed), London (Policy Exchange) 2016.

Twenty-two Things Good Schools Do: Best Practice in the Independent Sector at Prep/Primary Level, Brighton (Temple Grove Trust) 2012.

What Your Year One/Two/Three... Child Needs to Know: Visual Arts (Robert Whelen ed.), London (Civitas) 2011.

Snail Trail: In Search of a Modern Masterpiece, London (Quarto) 2009—and continually in print from that time. (American edition, published April 2010; Chinese edition published June 2010; Korean edition published April 2011).

Nicolaus Knupfer: An Original Artist. A Monograph with Catalogue Raisonné of Paintings and Drawings, Doornspijk (Davaco) 2005.

A full list of publications can be provided upon request.

Formal minutes

Tuesday 6 July 2021

Members present:

Robert Halfon, in the Chair

Apsana Begum	David Johnston
Jonathan Gullis	Ian Mearns
Tom Hunt	David Simmonds
Dr Caroline Johnson	Christian Wakeford
Kim Johnson	

1. The following declarations of interest relating to the inquiry were made:

6 July 2021

David Johnston declared the following interest: he was a Governor of schools in the group Future Academies (2008–2017) during a period when Dr Jo Saxton was Chief Executive (2011–2016).

2. Draft Report (*Appointment of the Chief Regulator of Ofqual*) proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

Ordered, That the draft Report be read a second time, paragraph by paragraph.

Paragraphs 1 to 18 read and agreed to.

Paragraph 19 read.

Motion made, and Question put, That Paragraph 19 stand part of the Report.

The Committee divided.

Ayes, 6	Noes, 3
Jonathan Gullis	Apsana Begum
Tom Hunt	Kim Johnson
Dr Caroline Johnson	Ian Mearns
David Johnston	
David Simmonds	
Christian Wakeford	

Paragraph 19 accordingly agreed to.

Four papers were appended to the report

Resolved, That the Report be the Second Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chair make the Report to the House.

Ordered, That embargoed copies of the Report be made available (Standing Order No. 134).

[Adjourned till 13 July 2021 at 9.30 am

Witnesses

The following witnesses gave evidence. Transcripts can be viewed on the [inquiry publications page](#) of the Committee's website.

Tuesday 06 July 2021

Dr Jo Saxton, Government's preferred candidate

[Q1–66](#)

List of Reports from the Committee during the current Parliament

All publications from the Committee are available on the publications page of the Committee's website.

Session 2021–22

Number	Title	Reference
1st Report	The forgotten: how White working-class pupils have been let down, and how to change it	HC 85

Session 2019–21

Number	Title	Reference
1st Report	Getting the grades they've earned: Covid-19: the cancellation of exams and 'calculated' grades	HC 617
2nd Report	Appointment of the Children's Commissioner for England	HC 1030
3rd Report	A plan for an adult skills and lifelong learning revolution	HC 278
4th Report	Appointment of the Chair of the Office for Students	HC 1143
1st Special Report	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities: Government Response to the Committee's First Report of Session 2019	HC 668
2nd Special Report	Getting the grades they've earned: COVID-19: the cancellation of exams and 'calculated' grades: Response to the Committee's First Report	HC 812
3rd Special Report	A plan for an adult skills and lifelong learning revolution: Government Response to the Committee's Third Report	HC 1310